

Serial No. 10/500,204

Attorney Docket No. PD010078

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) Method for ~~automatic~~ detection of data types for data type dependent processing ~~by a technical device~~, comprising the steps of:

- a) receiving data,
- b) analyzing said received data to determine whether the format of said data can be detected,
- c) after detecting the format of the received data, using said detected format for evaluating whether said data ~~items~~ types of said received data are at least one of:
 - metadata being defined as data with a link pointing to reference data and any data referring to said link,
 - essence data being defined as data without an attached link pointing to reference data, and
 - a container containing at least one of: metadata, essence data, and a different data container,
 - evaluating whether ~~a~~ said ~~technical~~ device is able to interpret said metadata or essence data for reproducing a physical representation of said received data so as to indicate that the received data is either physical data or abstract data, and
 - supplying the result of said evaluations to the ~~technical~~ device for data type dependent processing of said received data.

2. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein the received data being interpretable by said ~~technical~~ device is also indicated whether the format type of said received data is one of a number of specified format types.

3. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein for data not ~~being~~ not interpretable by said ~~technical~~ device is also indicated if it is indicated as being in a text format if said not interpretable data is detected as being text.

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4. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein said ~~technical~~ device is a data sorting device, a database management system or a data content browser.

5 – 11 (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim ~~4-1~~, wherein said received data is determined to be abstract data instead of said physical data type.

13. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim ~~4-1~~, wherein said interpretation by said device is displaying said data as a picture.